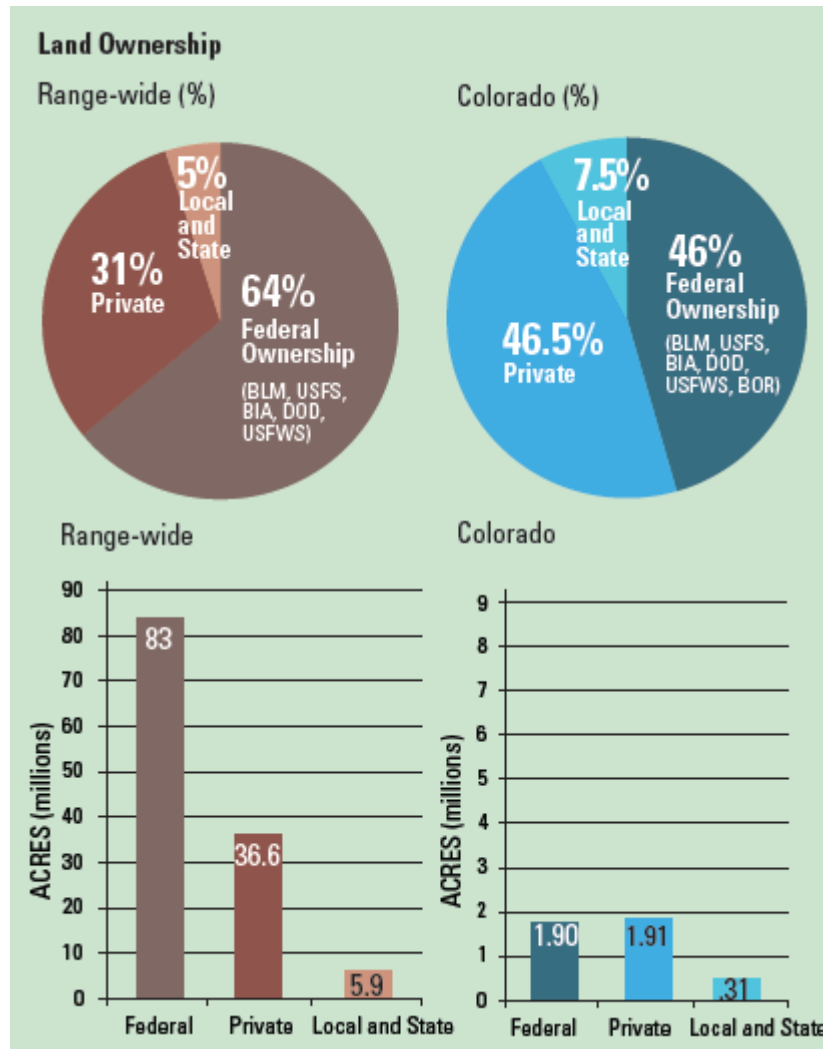


Colorado

Facts and Figures for BLM-USFS Conservation Plans for Greater Sage-Grouse

Northwestern Colorado is located on the southern edge of greater sage-grouse range, but a high percentage of sage-grouse habitat in the state is considered a priority for conservation. Sage-grouse habitat is about evenly split between federal and private ownership.

Management of Greater Sage-Grouse Habitat



About the plans: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) are amending land use plans in Colorado to address threats to the greater sage-grouse and its habitat such that protections under the Endangered Species Act are no longer warranted. The BLM-USFS plans provide a layered management approach that focus protections on priority areas identified by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service where additional loss of habitat would reduce long-term viability of sage-grouse populations.

Definitions:

- **Priority Habitat Management Areas (PHMA)**
 - **Definition:** BLM-USFS administered lands identified as having the highest value to maintaining sustainable greater sage-grouse populations. Priority habitat closely tracks Priority Areas for Conservation (PACs), identified in the Conservation Objectives Team report and based on state-mapped key greater sage-grouse habitats.
 - **Management approach:** The plans seek to limit or eliminate new surface disturbance.
- **General Habitat Management Areas (GHMA)**
 - **Definition:** BLM-USFS administered lands where special management would apply to sustain greater sage-grouse populations, but that are not as important as priority habitat.
 - **Management approach:** The plans seek to minimize disturbance.

Habitat Management Areas in Colorado in Final Proposed Plan

Area	Acres	Percent of Colorado
State of Colorado	66,678,400	100%
BLM-USFS planning area	6,162,000	9%
PHMA	926,700	1%
GHMA	742,900	1%

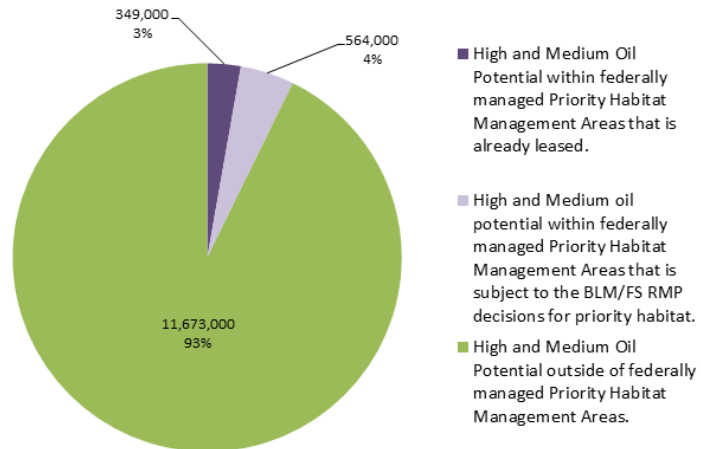
Current Development - Statistics below demonstrate the extent to which federally managed Priority Habitat Management Areas have existing energy development. The plans recognize all valid, existing rights.

- **Overall:** Approximately 37% of PHMAs on federal lands and minerals are covered by existing leases and ROWs for coal, oil and gas, solar and wind energy.
- **Oil and Gas Leases:** Approximately 37% of PHMAs on federal lands and minerals are leased, with approximately 6% of these held by production.
- **Coal Leases:** Less than 1% of PHMAs on federal lands and minerals are leased.
- **Solar ROWs:** There are no approved solar ROWs in PHMAs on federal lands.
- **Wind ROWs:** Less than 1% of PHMAs on federal lands are covered by approved wind ROWs.

Energy potential within habitat - Statistics below depict the amount of energy potential estimated to exist *within* federally managed Priority Habitat Management Areas.

- **Oil Potential:**
Approximately 43% of federal lands and minerals within PHMAs have low oil potential.
- **Natural Gas Potential:**
Approximately 45% of federal lands and minerals within PHMAs have low natural gas potential.
- **Wind Speed:**
Approximately 99% of federal lands within PHMAs are in low to medium wind speed categories.
- **Solar:** 100% of federal lands within PHMAs are outside Solar Energy Zones identified in the BLM's Western Solar Plan.

Out of approximately 12.6 million acres of high and medium oil potential in Colorado, approximately 564 thousand acres (4%) will be subject to the BLM/FS plans for priority habitat.



Energy potential outside of habitat – Statistics below depict the amount of energy potential estimated to exist *outside* of federally managed Priority Habitat Management Areas.

- **Oil Potential:** Approximately 93% of lands that have medium to high oil potential within the state are outside of federal lands and minerals within PHMAs.
- **Natural Gas Potential:** Approximately 90% of lands that have medium to high natural gas potential within the state are outside of federal lands and minerals within PHMAs.
- **Wind Speed:** Approximately 99% of lands in the high wind speed category within the state are outside of federal lands within PHMAs.
- **Solar:** 100% of federal lands within the state identified as Solar Energy Zones within the BLM's Western Solar Plan classified are outside of PHMAs.

Hard Rock Mining Locations (A surrogate for Mineral Potential) outside of Sagebrush Focal Areas: Not applicable in Colorado as there are no Sagebrush Focal Areas in the state.

Analysis Details

PHMAs are summarized in this document for all topics except for mineral potential, which refer to SFAs. The extent of this analysis was defined by the area within the political state boundaries and the surface or subsurface estate as applicable to the subject as follows:

1. Oil, Gas, Coal and Minerals related analyses were limited to the federal subsurface estate within PHMA for MT, ND, SD, WY, CO, UT, and portions of ID. The federal surface estate (including BIA lands) was used as a surrogate for subsurface estate within PHMA for NV, CA, Northern ID and OR. Total oil and gas potential includes all lands within the political state boundaries.
2. Wind analysis was limited to the federal surface estate (including BIA lands) within PHMA and total potential for all lands within the political state boundaries.
3. Solar PEIS analysis extent was determined by the initial study, which included BLM administered lands within the political states of CA, NV, UT, CO, AZ, and NM. Only CA, CO, NV, and UT are summarized in these statistics.

Data Sources

1. **Oil and Gas Potential:** Inventory of Onshore Federal Oil and Natural Gas Resources and Restrictions to Their Development - Phase III Inventory – Onshore United States 2008. Detailed analysis was performed in defined basins, with an extrapolation model applied to all other areas.
2. **Solar PEIS Land Use Allocations:** Downloaded from <http://solareis.anl.gov/maps/gis/index.cfm> and modified for analysis by the Wildlife Habitat Spatial Analysis Lab with input from Argonne National Laboratory in April 2015.
3. **Wind data:** AWS Truepower, LLC acquired from the BLM.
4. **Metallic Mineral (Hard-Rock) Locations:** Extracted from the USGS Mineral Resource Data System (2012) database.
5. **Oil and Gas Leases, Coal Leases, Wind & Solar ROWs:** BLM submissions compiled by the Wildlife Habitat Spatial Analysis Lab in 2012.